

SECRET

By authority A. C. of S., G-2
11 SEP 1945

Date _____ (_____)

MIS/Mil Initials
Col Hopkins/72189/1aa

MID 907

11 September 1945

Major General Charles Willoughby
A. C. of S., G-2, GHQ, USAFFAC
APO 500, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, California

Dear Willoughby:

A conference was recently held here with representation from the Navy, Army Air Forces, Army Service Forces, and the Military Intelligence Service for the purpose of coordinating the handling and exploitation of Japanese documents under the changed conditions arising from the surrender of Japan. A copy of the report of this conference is attached, and you will note that, in essence, it recommends the integration of Army and Navy document exploitation activities in Washington. This recommendation can be implemented quite simply by enlarging the scope of the Washington Document Center, which is already a joint Army-Navy activity.

The recommendations of the conference also include the establishment of an advanced echelon of the Washington Document Center with ATIS to insure the early evacuation of the selected archives of significance to the War and Navy Departments. Indirectly, at least, this means that the Washington Document Center will be placed in support of ATIS, since ATIS will be relieved of the burden of serving the Washington agencies and will thus be able to concentrate on meeting theater requirements. To further simplify the exploitation of Japanese documents, and now that Army and Navy activities along this line have been fully integrated and coordinated, it is planned to look after the interests of authorized civilian government departments so that they may likewise be served by the Washington Document Center (advanced echelon).

To aid in the establishing of this activity with minimum delay, it is planned that two officers, one each Army and Navy, will report to you in the near future with the mission of making preliminary arrangements for Washington Document Center (advanced echelon) under ATIS. These officers will be at your disposal to be used as you see fit in laying the groundwork for this operation.

Sincerely,

1 Incl:

Preliminary Report of
Conference, 29 Aug 45

CLAYTON BISSILL
Major General, GSC
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

OSD REVIEW
COMPLETED

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